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30 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
31 **FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

32 AARON SENNE, *et al.*,

33 Plaintiffs,

34 vs.

35 OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF  
36 BASEBALL, an unincorporated association  
37 doing business as MAJOR LEAGUE  
38 BASEBALL, *et al.*,

39 Defendants.

40 Case No. CV 14-00608 JCS (consolidated  
41 with 3:14-cv-03289-JCS)

42 Hon. Joseph C. Spero

43 **CLASS ACTION**

44 **DEFENDANTS' STATEMENT IN  
45 PARTIAL SUPPORT OF  
46 PLAINTIFFS' ADMINISTRATIVE  
47 MOTION TO FILE CERTAIN  
48 DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL IN  
49 CONNECTION WITH PLAINTIFFS'  
50 MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY  
51 JUDGMENT (L.R. 7-11, 79-5)**

1                   Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 7-11(b), Defendants and the Non-Party Dismissed MLB  
 2 Clubs with the exception of the Baltimore Orioles<sup>1</sup> (collectively, the “Designating Parties”)  
 3 submit this Statement in Partial Support of Plaintiffs’ Administrative Motion to File Certain  
 4 Documents Under Seal. On October 29, 2021, pursuant to Civil Local Rule 79-5(b), Plaintiffs  
 5 submitted an administrative motion for an order permitting the filing under seal of certain  
 6 documents that were filed in support of Plaintiffs’ Motion for Partial Summary Judgment. (See  
 7 Dkt. 981.) In accordance with Civil Local Rule 79-5,<sup>2</sup> the Designating Parties submit this  
 8 Statement, the accompanying Declaration of Elise M. Bloom in Partial Support of Plaintiffs’  
 9 Administrative Motion to File Under Seal (“Bloom Decl.”), and the Proposed Order, with  
 10 respect to the documents that the Designating Parties have designated,<sup>3</sup> in whole or in part, as  
 11 “Confidential” or “Confidential – Restricted” pursuant to the parties’ Stipulated Protective  
 12 Order (Dkt. 233). (See Bloom Decl. ¶ 4.)

13                   The Designating Parties respectfully request that the Court seal all or portions of the  
 14 documents reflected on the chart annexed as Bloom Decl., Ex. 1. (Bloom Decl. ¶ 5.) Such  
 15 documents are referred to collectively as the “Proposed Sealed Documents.” (*Id.*) The  
 16 Designating Parties respectfully request that the Court order that any references in Plaintiffs’  
 17 Motion for Partial Summary Judgment that quote, summarize or otherwise refer to the Proposed  
 18 Sealed Documents shall also remain sealed. (*Id.*) The Proposed Sealed Documents consist of  
 19 the following categories of documents, which are sealable and entitled to protection under the  
 20 law for the following reasons:<sup>4</sup>

21                   A. MLB Clubs Handbooks, Guides, Policies, Memoranda and Testimony Related  
 22                   Thereto. Each MLB Club produces proprietary Player Development Manuals,

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24                   <sup>1</sup> The Non-Party Dismissed MLB Clubs submitting this Statement include the Atlanta Braves, Boston Red Sox,  
 25 Chicago White Sox, Cleveland Indians, Philadelphia Phillies, Tampa Bay Rays and Washington Nationals.

25                   <sup>2</sup> Civil Local Rule 79-5 was amended as of November 1, 2021. However, pursuant to Civil Local Rule 1-3, the  
 26 provisions of the local rules that were in effect on October 31, 2021 shall apply to the Designating Parties’  
 27 response to Plaintiffs’ Administrative Motion to File Under Seal (Dkt. 981).

27                   <sup>3</sup> The Designating Parties have not addressed herein any documents for which the Designating Parties did not  
 28 designate as “Confidential” or “Confidential – Restricted” pursuant to the parties’ Stipulated Protective Order.  
 (See Broshuis Decl. Exs. 66, 70, 94.)

28                   <sup>4</sup> Some Exhibits contain information belonging to more than one category listed in Bloom Decl., ¶ 5, and  
 accordingly, such Exhibits are listed more than once here and in Bloom Decl., Ex. 1.

1 Guides, Handbooks, Policies and/or Memoranda for its players and player  
2 development staff (e.g., managers, coaches, trainers, coordinators). (Bloom Decl.  
3 ¶ 5(A).) These documents contain individual Club player development strategies  
4 and philosophies, individual Club-specific direction to players and staff, and  
5 individual Club compensation practices, including but not limited to salary scales  
6 applicable to certain minor league players. (*Id.*) These documents are what the  
7 Clubs use to cultivate their unique player development programs. (*Id.*) These  
8 documents are not shared outside the individual Clubs, and the individual Clubs  
9 would suffer harm if these documents were publicly disclosed or made available  
10 to other Clubs. (*Id.*) Deposition testimony about the content of such documents,  
11 or which describe similar information, should also remain sealed for these same  
12 reasons. (*Id.*) For these reasons, the Court previously granted the Designating  
13 Parties' request to seal these types of documents in this action. (See Dkt. 607.)  
14 For the Court's convenience, all of the Proposed Sealed Documents that contain  
15 the type of confidential and proprietary information described in this paragraph  
16 are identified as "Category A Documents" in Bloom Decl., Ex. 1. The  
17 Designating Parties submit that the following documents should remain fully  
18 sealed or should be filed with the sealable information redacted, as indicated on  
19 Bloom Decl., Ex. 1: Declaration of Garrett R. Broshuis In Support of Plaintiffs'  
20 Motion for Partial Summary Judgment (Dkt. 986-1) ("Broshuis Decl.") Exs. 7, 10,  
21 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 65, 68, 77,  
22 and 96.

B. MLB Clubs' Off-Season Training Materials and Testimony Related Thereto.

24 Certain Clubs memorialize off-season training and conditioning activities in the  
25 form of manuals or guidelines. (Bloom Decl. ¶ 5(B).) These documents are  
26 designed for the players' benefit and provide guidance on how players can  
27 maintain and improve their strength, nutrition, fitness and baseball skills during

1 the off-season so that they can be better prepared for the season. (*Id.*) These  
 2 proprietary documents are developed using the resources and knowledge of Club  
 3 staff, and the Club does not share them outside of its organization. (*Id.*) The  
 4 Clubs would suffer harm if these documents were publicly disclosed or made  
 5 available to other Clubs. (*Id.*) For these reasons, the Court previously granted  
 6 Defendants' request to seal these types of documents in this action. (*See* Dkt.  
 7 607.) For the Court's convenience, all of the Proposed Sealed Documents that  
 8 contain the type of confidential and proprietary information described in this  
 9 paragraph that are reflected in the off-season training materials, as well as  
 10 testimony related thereto, are identified as "Category B Documents" in Bloom  
 11 Decl., Ex. 1. The Designating Parties submit that the following documents should  
 12 remain fully sealed or should be filed with the sealable information redacted, as  
 13 indicated on Bloom Decl., Ex. 1: Broshuis Decl. Exs. 43 and 104.

14 C. Club Strategy for Signing, Drafting, Retaining, Assigning, and/or Trading  
 15 Players. Each MLB Club has unique, individualized, and proprietary methods  
 16 and strategies in relation to signing, drafting, retaining, assigning and trading  
 17 minor league players. (Bloom Decl. ¶ 5(C).) An individual Club would suffer  
 18 harm if such methods and strategies were publicly known or if they were  
 19 disclosed to other Clubs, as these methods and strategies are not shared outside of  
 20 the organization. (*Id.*) For the Court's convenience, all of the Proposed Sealed  
 21 Documents that contain the type of confidential and proprietary information  
 22 described in this paragraph that are reflected in the Proposed Sealed Documents,  
 23 as well as testimony related thereto, are identified as "Category C Documents" in  
 24 Bloom Decl., Ex. 1. The Designating Parties submit that the following documents  
 25 should remain fully sealed or should be filed with the sealable information  
 26 redacted, as indicated on Bloom Decl., Ex. 1: Broshuis Decl. Exs. 3, 10, 11, 16,  
 27 19, 26, 27, 28, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 68, 77, 96, 100, 105, 106, 110, and 111.

1       D. Information Affecting the Legitimate Privacy Concerns of Individuals.

2           Documents containing the residences of Club employees affect the legitimate  
 3           privacy concerns of those employees. (Bloom Decl. ¶ 5(D).) This is a highly-  
 4           publicized litigation, and many deponents are figures in whom the public may  
 5           have an interest (e.g., the General Manager of a Club), and their personal  
 6           residences should be withheld from the public record. (*Id.*) Other documents  
 7           include personal confidential information, such as a player's application to use  
 8           certain prescription drugs that would otherwise be prohibited, a player's home  
 9           residence (and periods of time during which they would be located away from  
 10           their home residence), and personal financial information of players (*see, e.g.*,  
 11           Broshuis Decl. Ex. 53). (*Id.*) For the Court's convenience, all of the Proposed  
 12           Sealed Documents that contain the type of personal confidential information  
 13           described in this paragraph are identified as "Category D Documents" in Bloom  
 14           Decl., Ex. 1. The Designating Parties submit that the following documents should  
 15           remain fully sealed or should be filed with the sealable information redacted, as  
 16           indicated on Bloom Decl., Ex. 1: Broshuis Decl. Exs. 9, 26, 37, 38, 41, 53, 76, 77,  
 17           108, 110, and 112.

18       E. Confidential Financial Information. Documents containing confidential financial  
 19           information of MLB and MLB Clubs should remain sealed. (Bloom Decl.  
 20           ¶ 5(E).) MLB and/or the Clubs will suffer harm if such information (including  
 21           percentages of revenue received by MLB/Clubs, taxes paid, and/or expenditures  
 22           incurred) were publicly disclosed. (*Id.*) For these reasons, the Court previously  
 23           granted Defendants' request to seal these types of documents in this action. (*See*  
 24           Dkt. 217.) For the Court's convenience, all of the Proposed Sealed Documents  
 25           that contain the type of confidential information described in this paragraph are  
 26           identified as "Category E Documents" in Bloom Decl., Ex. 1. The Designating  
 27           Parties submit that the following Documents should remain fully sealed or should

1                   be filed with the sealable information redacted, as indicated on Bloom Decl., Ex.  
 2                   1: Broshuis Decl. Exs. 14, 18, 37, 59, and 62.

3                   F. Expert Report Including Damages Calculations Based on Private and Confidential  
 4                   Payroll Information. The Rebuttal Report of Defendants' expert, Dr. Jonathan  
 5                   Guryan, Ph.D., dated September 27, 2021, should be sealed, in part. (See Dkt.  
 6                   989-22; Broshuis Decl. Ex. 115; Bloom Decl. ¶ 5(F).) This document contains  
 7                   alleged damages calculations by Plaintiffs and adjustments to those calculations  
 8                   by Defendants derived from confidential payroll information produced by the  
 9                   Clubs that are not disclosed publicly or to other Clubs. (*Id.*) The Clubs would be  
 10                  disadvantaged if the information is disclosed to the public and other Clubs,  
 11                  because the Clubs have different payroll systems and data. (*Id.*) In addition,  
 12                  damages calculations based on individual payroll records should not be publicly  
 13                  disclosed due to the privacy concerns of Plaintiffs and the class/collective  
 14                  members. (*Id.*) Defendants have previously submitted a redacted version of this  
 15                  document (see Dkt. 970-5), and respectfully request that the same redactions  
 16                  should be applied to Broshuis Decl. Ex. 115. (See Bloom Decl. ¶ 5(F).)

17                  The Designating Parties have also identified on Bloom Decl., Ex. 2, certain documents  
 18                  included in Plaintiffs' Administrative Motion that, although "confidential" in nature, do not meet  
 19                  the criteria to be filed under seal (collectively, the "Proposed Unsealed Documents"). (Bloom  
 20                  Decl. ¶ 6.) The Designating Parties respectfully request that the Court deny Plaintiffs'  
 21                  Administration Motion with respect to the Proposed Unsealed Documents: Broshuis Decl. Exs.  
 22                  4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 15, 21, 22, 23, 25, 40, 49, 50, 51, 56, 57, 60, 61, 69, 70, 74, 78, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,  
 23                  95, 97, 99, 102, 103, 109, and 113. (See Bloom Decl. ¶ 6.)

24                  This Statement in Support of the Administrative Motion is supported by the  
 25                  accompanying Declaration of Elise M. Bloom in compliance with Civil Local Rule 79-5(e)(1)  
 26                  and 79-5(d)(1)(A). Defendants respectfully request that the Court approve the Proposed Order  
 27                  attached to this Statement.

1 DATED: November 9, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

2 /s/ Elise M. Bloom

3  
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